Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method for improving insulin resistance, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof ~~An~~ an insulin resistance-improving agent comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin as an active ingredient.

2. (Currently amended) The method ~~insulin resistance-improving agent~~ according to claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin has a bile acid-adsorbing ability.

3. (Currently amended) The method ~~insulin resistance-improving agent~~ according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is selected from the ~~grouop~~ group consisting of colestimide, cholestyramine resin, colestipol, sevelamer hydrochloride, and colesevelam hydrochloride.

4. (Currently amended) The method ~~insulin resistance-improving agent~~ according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is an anion exchange resin synthesized by a polymerization reaction of an epichlorohydrin derivative and an amine of which typical example includes an imidazole derivative.

5. (Currently amended) The method ~~insulin resistance-improving agent~~ according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is colestimide.

6. (Currently amended) The method ~~insulin resistance-improving agent~~ according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, with which an oral hypoglycemic agent is used simultaneously, separately, or successively.

7. (Currently amended) The method ~~insulin resistance-improving agent~~ according to claim 6, wherein the oral hypoglycemic agent is selected from the group consisting of α-glucosidase inhibitors, biguanides, insulin sensitivity improving agents, sulfonylurea agents, rapid-acting insulin secretagogues, pharmaceutical preparations comprising GLP-1 or derivatives thereof, and DPP-IV inhibitors.

8. (Currently amended) A method for suppressing the onset of or treating insulin resistance syndrome, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof ~~An~~ an onset-suppressing and/or therapeutic agent for insulin resistance syndrome comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin as an active ingredient.

9. (Currently amended) The method ~~onset-suppressing and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to claim 8, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin has a bile acid-adsorbing ability.

10. (Currently amended) The method ~~onset-suppressing and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to claim 8 ~~or 9~~, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is selected from the group consisting of colestimide, cholestyramine resin, colestipol, sevelamer hydrochloride, and colesevelam hydrochloride.

11. (Currently amended) The method ~~onset-suppressing and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to claim 8 ~~or 9~~, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is an anion exchange resin synthesized by a polymerization reaction of an epichlorohydrin derivative and an amine of which typical example includes an imidazole derivative.

12. (Currently amended) The method ~~onset-suppressing and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to ~~any one of claims 8 to 11~~ claim 8, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is colestimide.

13. (Currently amended) The method ~~onset-suppressing and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to ~~any one of claims 8 to 12~~ claim 8, with which an oral hypoglycemic agent is used simultaneously, separately, or successively.

14. (Currently amended) The method ~~onset-suppressing and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to claim 13, wherein the oral hypoglycemic agent is selected from the group consisting of α-glucosidase inhibitors, biguanides, insulin sensitivity improving agents, sulfonylurea agents, rapid-acting insulin secretagogues, pharmaceutical preparations comprising GLP-1 or derivatives thereof, and DPP-IV inhibitors.

15. (Currently amended) A method for the prophylaxis, improvement or treatment of a disease or symptom resulting from insulin resistance, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof ~~A~~ a prophylactic, improving and/or therapeutic agent for a disease or symptom resulting from insulin resistance, which comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin as an active ingredient.

16. (Currently amended) The method ~~prophylactic, improving and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to claim 15, wherein the disease or symptom resulting from insulin resistance is selected from the group consisting of hyperinsulinism, abnormal lipid metabolism, arteriosclerosis, abnormal vascular endothelial function, coronary artery disease, cardiovascular disease, renal dysfunction, hypertension, fatty liver, type 2 diabetes, hyperuricemia, multiple risk factor syndrome, and gestational diabetes.

17. (Currently amended) The method ~~prophylactic, improving and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to claim 15, wherein the disease or symptom resulting from insulin resistance is selected from the group consisting of hyperinsulinism, abnormal lipid metabolism, abnormal vascular endothelial function, coronary artery disease, cardiovascular disease, renal dysfunction, hypertension, fatty liver, type 2 diabetes, and hyperuricemia.

18. (Currently amended) The method ~~prophylactic, improving and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to claim 15, wherein the disease or symptom resulting from insulin resistance is selected from the group consisting of hyperinsulinism, abnormal lipid metabolism, renal dysfunction, fatty liver, type 2 diabetes, and hyperuricemia.

19. (Currently amended) The method ~~prophylactic, improving and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to claim 16 ~~or 17~~, wherein the coronary artery disease or cardiovascular disease is myocardial infarction, cerebral infarction, or cerebral apoplexy.

20. (Currently amended) The method ~~prophylactic, improving and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to claim 16, wherein the multiple risk factor syndrome is syndrome X, visceral fat syndrome, or metabolic syndrome.

21. (Currently amended) The method ~~prophylactic, improving and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 20~~ claim 15, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin has a bile acid adsorbing ability.

22. (Currently amended) The method ~~prophylactic, improving and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 21~~ claim 15, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is selected from the group consisting of colestimide, cholestyramine resin, colestipol, sevelamer hydrochloride, and colesevelam hydrochloride.

23. (Currently amended) The method ~~prophylactic, improving and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 21~~ claim 15, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is an anion exchange resin synthesized by a polymerization reaction of an epichlorohydrin derivative and an amine of which typical example includes an imidazole derivative.

24. (Currently amended) The method ~~prophylactic, improving and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 23~~ claim 15, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is colestimide.

25. (Currently amended) The method ~~prophylactic, improving and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 24~~ claim 15, with which an oral hypoglycemic agent is used simultaneously, separately, or successively.

26. (Currently amended) The method ~~prophylactic, improving and/or therapeutic agent~~ according to claim 25, wherein the oral hypoglycemic agent is selected from the group consisting of α-glucosidase inhibitors, biguanides, insulin sensitivity improving agents, sulfonylurea agents, rapid-acting insulin secretagogues, pharmaceutical preparations comprising GLP-1 or derivatives thereof, and DPP-IV inhibitors.